United Nations E/CN.6/2015/L.2

Economic and Social Council

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13 March 2015

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Commission on the Status of Women
Fifty-ninth session
9-20 March 2015
Agenda item 3 (c)
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century": gender mainstreaming, situations and programmatic matters

South Africa* and State of Palestine: draft resolution**

Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women

The Commission on the Status of Women recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[2] in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women[3] and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

** In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] E/CN.6/2015/5.

[2] Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[3] Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

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entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[4]

Recalling also its resolution 2014/1 of 12 June 2014 and other relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution 57/337 of 3 July 2003, on the prevention of armed conflict, and Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 and 2122 (2013) of 18 October 2013, on women and peace and security,

Recalling further the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women[5] as it concerns the protection of civilian populations,

Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[6] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[6] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[7] and reaffirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council,

Taking note of the recent accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law treaties,

Expressing deep concern about the grave situation of Palestinian women in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, resulting from the severe impact of the ongoing illegal Israeli occupation and all of its manifestations,

Expressing grave concern about the increased difficulties being faced by Palestinian women and girls living under Israeli occupation, including as a result of the continuation of home demolitions, evictions of Palestinians, the revocation of residency rights, arbitrary detention and imprisonment and escalating settler violence against Palestinian civilians and their properties, as well as high rates of poverty, unemployment, food insecurity, inadequate water supply and unsafe drinking water, incidents of domestic violence, and declining health, education and living standards, including the rising incidence of trauma and the decline in their psychological well-being, particularly in the Gaza Strip, where a grave humanitarian crisis continues to severely affect the situation of women and girls,

Deploring the dire economic and social conditions of Palestinian women and girls in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the systematic violation of their human rights resulting from the severe impact of ongoing illegal Israeli practices, including the forced displacement of civilians, especially among the Bedouin community, and confiscation of land, particularly in connection with the construction and expansion of settlements and the wall, which continue to constitute a major obstacle to peace on the basis of the two-State solution, and the continued imposition of closures and restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, including the permit regime throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which have detrimentally affected their right to health care, including access for pregnant women to health services for

[4] General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.
[5] See General Assembly resolution 48/104.
[6] See General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

antenatal care and safe delivery, education, employment, development and freedom of movement,

Condemning the military conflict in and around the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014 and the civilian casualties caused, including the killing and injury of thousands of Palestinian civilians, including hundreds of children, women and elderly persons, as well as the widespread destruction of homes and critical civilian infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, water, sanitation and electricity networks, economic, industrial and agricultural properties, public institutions, religious sites and United Nations schools and facilities, as well as the internal displacement of hundreds of thousands of civilians, and any violations of international law, including humanitarian and human rights law,

Gravely concerned, in particular, about the critical socioeconomic and humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, including that resulting from the Israeli military operations in July and August 2014, as well as the long-term negative impact of Israeli military operations from December 2008 to January 2009 and in November 2012, and the continuing imposition of a blockade consisting of the prolonged closure of border crossings and severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, as well as the continued impeding of the reconstruction process by Israel, the occupying Power, which has detrimentally affected every aspect of the lives of the civilian population, especially women and children, in the Gaza Strip,

Stressing the need for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilian population throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in accordance with international humanitarian law,

Stressing also the importance of providing assistance, especially emergency assistance, to alleviate the dire socioeconomic and humanitarian situation being faced by Palestinian women and their families, and recognizing the essential efforts and support being provided by the United Nations agencies and other humanitarian aid organizations on the ground, particularly in response to the grave humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip,

Welcoming the convening of the Cairo International Conference for Palestine and Reconstructing Gaza, on 12 October 2014, and urging the timely and full disbursement of pledges for expediting the provision of humanitarian assistance and the reconstruction process, which is essential for alleviating the distress of Palestinian women and their families,

Reiterating the importance of increasing the role of women in peacebuilding and decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and the peaceful resolution of conflicts as part of efforts to ensure the safety and well-being of all women in the region, and stressing the importance of women's equal participation and involvement in all efforts for the achievement, maintenance and promotion of peace and security,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Israeli occupation remains the major obstacle for Palestinian women with regard to their advancement, self-reliance and integration in the development of their society, and stresses the importance of efforts to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution and to ensure their equal participation and involvement in all efforts for the achievement, maintenance and promotion of peace and security;

2. *Calls upon* the international community, in this regard, to continue to provide urgently needed assistance, especially emergency assistance, and services in an effort to alleviate the dire humanitarian crisis being faced by Palestinian women and their families, in particular for addressing the humanitarian crisis and immense reconstruction and recovery needs in the Gaza Strip, and to help in the reconstruction of relevant Palestinian institutions, with the integration of a gender perspective into all of its international assistance programmes, commends the achievements of the Palestinian Government in constructing the institutions of an independent Palestinian State, as confirmed by international institutions, including by the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the United Nations, and calls for continued support of these efforts;

3. *Also calls upon* international donors to fulfil without delay all pledges made at the Cairo International Conference for Palestine and Reconstructing Gaza, held on 12 October 2014, in order to expedite the provision of humanitarian assistance and the reconstruction process, which is essential for alleviating the distress of Palestinian women and their families;

4. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply fully with the provisions and principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[8] the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention IV of 18 October 1907, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949[9] and all other relevant rules, principles and instruments of international law, including the International Covenants on Human Rights,[6] in order to protect the rights of Palestinian women and their families;

5. *Urges* the international community to continue to give special attention to the promotion and protection of the human rights of Palestinian women and girls and to intensify its measures to improve the difficult conditions being faced by Palestinian women and their families living under Israeli occupation;

6. *Calls upon* Israel to facilitate the return of all refugees and displaced Palestinian women and children to their homes and properties, in compliance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

7. *Urges* the international community to make renewed efforts aimed at advancing and accelerating the conclusion of a peace treaty based on clear parameters and with a defined time frame to attain without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 by resolving all outstanding issues, including all core issues, without exception, for a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, in accordance with the internationally recognized basis of the two-State solution, and of the Arab-Israeli conflict as a whole, for the realization of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East;

8. *Requests* the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to monitor and take action with regard to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[2] in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action[3] and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";[4]

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[8] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

[9] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to review the situation, to assist Palestinian women by all available means, including those laid out in his report,[1] and to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its sixtieth session a report, including information provided by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

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(b) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men;

(c) Gender mainstreaming, situations and programmatic matters.

Documentation

Reports of the Secretary-General:

- Progress in mainstreaming a gender perspective in the development, implementation and evaluation of national policies and programmes, with a particular focus on the priority theme
- Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women
- Release of women and children taken hostage, including those subsequently imprisoned, in armed conflicts (pursuant to Commission resolution 58/1)
- Women, the girl child and HIV and AIDS (pursuant to Commission resolution 58/3)
- Proposals on the Commission's priority themes for future sessions, bearing in mind the results of the ongoing review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 and Council resolution 2012/30

Report of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women on the activities of the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the outcome of relevant sessions of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

4. Communications concerning the status of women.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the list of confidential communications concerning the status of women and responses thereto

5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions.

Documentation

Letter from the President of the Economic and Social Council to the Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women

Note by the Secretariat serving as a contribution to the work of the Economic and Social Council

6. Provisional agenda for the sixty-first session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its sixtieth session.

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Economic and Social Council

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16 March 2015

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Commission on the Status of Women
Fifty-ninth session
9-20 March 2015
Agenda item 7
Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-ninth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mohamed **Elbahi** (Sudan)

Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Commission on the Status of Women held its fifty-ninth session at United Nations Headquarters on 21 March 2014 and from 9 to 20 March 2015. The Commission held _____ meetings (1st to __).

2. The session was opened by the Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur of the Commission, Mohamed El-Bahi (Sudan).

3. At the 2nd meeting, on 9 March, a statement was made by the Chair, Kanda Vajrabhaya (Thailand), following her election.

4. At the same meeting, statements were made by the Secretary-General; the President of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly (Uganda); the President of the Security Council for the month of March (France); the Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council (Republic of Korea); the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme; the Executive Director of the Association for Women's Rights in Development; and a representative of the Voice of Libyan Women and member of the global civil society advisory group of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women). A keynote address was delivered by the Chair of the Commission on Higher Education of the Philippines, Patricia Licuanan, and a statement was made by the Minister and Vice-Chair of the National Working Committee on Children and Women under the State Council of China, Song Xiuyan, as representative of the host country of the Fourth World Conference on Women.

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5. Also at the 2nd meeting, the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of UN-Women and the Chair of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women made statements.

6. At the 5th meeting, on 11 March, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences provided an oral report in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 16/7 of 24 March 2011.

B. Attendance

7. The session was attended by representatives of ___ States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for non-member States, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations also attended.

C. Officers of the Commission

8. In accordance with paragraph 2 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/21, the officers are elected to the Bureau of the Commission for a term of office of two years. The following officers were elected at the 1st and 2nd meetings of the fifty-eighth session, on 15 March 2013 and 10 March 2014, and on the 1st and 2nd meetings of the fifty-ninth session, on 21 March 2014 and 9 March 2015, to serve on the Bureau of the Commission at its fifty-ninth session:[1]

Chair:

Kanda Vajrabhaya (Thailand)

Vice-Chairs:

Pille Kesler (Estonia)
Rubén Ignacio Zamora Rivas (El Salvador)
Christine Loew (Switzerland)

Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur:

Mohamed Elbahi (Sudan)

D. Agenda and organization of work

9. At its 2nd meeting, on 9 March 2015, the Commission adopted its agenda as contained in document E/CN.6/2015/1. The agenda read as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

[1] The following officers were elected for the fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth sessions of the Commission: Christine Loew (Switzerland), at the 1st meeting of the fifty-eighth session, on 15 March 2013; and Mohamed Elbahi (Sudan), at the 2nd meeting of the fifty-eighth session, on 10 March 2014. The following officers were elected for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission only: Pille Kesler (Estonia), at the 1st meeting of the fifty-ninth session, on 21 March 2014; and Kanda Vajrabhaya (Thailand) and Rubén Ignacio Zamora Rivas (El Salvador), at the 2nd meeting of the fifty-ninth session, on 9 March 2015.

3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century":

   (a) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives: review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/18);

   (b) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men:

   (c) Gender mainstreaming, situations and programmatic matters.

4. Communications concerning the status of women.

5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions.

6. Provisional agenda for the sixtieth session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-ninth session.

10. At the same meeting, the Commission approved its organization of work, as contained in document E/CN.6/2015/1/Add.1.

E. Documentation

11. The list of documents before the Commission at its fifty-ninth session is available from www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw59-2015/official-documents.

United Nations E/CN.6/2015/L.5

Economic and Social Council

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18 March 2015

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Commission on the Status of Women
Fifty-ninth session
9-20 March 2015
Agenda item 2
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Draft resolution submitted by the Chair of the Commission, Kanda Vajrabhaya (Thailand), on the basis of informal consultations

Future organization and methods of work of the Commission on the Status of Women

The Commission on the Status of Women recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Future organization and methods of work of the Commission on the Status of Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2013/18 of 24 July 2013, in which it decided that the Commission on the Status of Women should review the functioning of its methods of work, adopted by the Council in its resolution 2006/9 of 25 July 2006 and confirmed in its resolution 2009/15 of 28 July 2009, with a view to further enhancing the impact of the work of the Commission,

Reaffirming the primary responsibility of the Commission on the Status of Women for the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",

Recognizing that the organization of work of the Commission should contribute to advancing the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[1] and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[2]

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[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

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Recognizing also that the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and the fulfilment of the obligations of States under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[3] are mutually reinforcing in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, as well as the realization of their human rights,

Reaffirming that gender mainstreaming constitutes a critical strategy in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, and underlining the catalytic role of the Commission in promoting gender mainstreaming,

Recognizing the key role of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women in supporting the work of the Commission.

Recognizing also the importance of non-governmental organizations, as well as other civil society actors, in advancing the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and, in this respect, the work of the Commission,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 68/1 of 20 September 2013 on the review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council, in which it is stipulated that the Economic and Social Council shall invite, inter alia, its subsidiary bodies to contribute, as appropriate, to its work in keeping with the agreed annual theme,

Noting the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda and the relevance of the Commission's work in this respect,

1. *Reaffirms* the primary responsibility of the Commission on the Status of Women for the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", and further reaffirms its mandate, and its important role in overall policy-making and in coordinating the implementation and monitoring of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, in which it is recognized that the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of all women and girls is essential for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls;

2. *Affirms* that the Commission will also contribute to the follow-up to the post-2015 development agenda, to be adopted at the United Nations summit in September 2015, so as to accelerate the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women;

3. *Decides* that the Commission will report on gender equality and empowerment of women aspects of the agreed main theme of the Economic and Social Council in order to contribute to its work;

4. *Also decides* that the Commission's session will include a ministerial segment to reaffirm and strengthen political commitment for the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls as well as their human

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

rights and to ensure high-level engagement and the visibility of the Commission's deliberations, and that the segment will include ministerial round tables or other high-level interactive dialogues to exchange experiences, lessons learned and good practices, as well as a general discussion on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;

5. *Further decides* that the Commission will continue to hold, on an annual basis, a general discussion that will commence during the ministerial segment on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, and recommends that statements identify goals attained, achievements made, and efforts under way to close gaps and meet challenges in relation to the priority theme and the review theme;

6. *Decides* that statements made during the general discussion will continue to be subject to strict time limits that will be determined prior to the session by the Bureau of the Commission and consistently applied by the Chair;

7. *Also decides* that the Commission will continue to consider one priority theme at each session, based on the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and possible linkages to the post-2015 development agenda to be adopted at the United Nations summit in September 2015;

8. *Further decides* that the Commission's consideration of the priority theme shall focus on ways and means to accelerate the implementation of commitments in the context of current challenges, through not more than two interactive expert panels or other interactive dialogues to identify key policy initiatives and strategies in order to accelerate implementation based on an exchange of national, regional and global experiences, lessons learned, good practices and new insights based on evidence, research and evaluation, and with an emphasis on results achieved, to strengthen dialogue and commitment for further action, and that the expert panels could include experts from Governments, the United Nations system, civil society, and other stakeholder groups that work on the theme under consideration;

9. *Decides* that the outcome of the annual discussions on the priority theme will be in the form of short and succinct agreed conclusions, negotiated by all Member States, which shall focus on action-oriented recommendations for steps and measures to close remaining gaps and meet challenges and accelerate implementation, to be taken by Governments, relevant intergovernmental bodies, mechanisms and entities of the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders, and that the agreed conclusions shall be widely disseminated to the United Nations system and made widely available by all Member States to the public in their own countries to encourage follow-up action;

10. *Also decides* that the Commission will, as necessary, continue to discuss emerging issues, trends, focus areas and new approaches to questions affecting the situation of women, including equality between women and men, that require timely consideration, taking into account developments at the global and regional levels as well as planned activities within the United Nations, where increased attention to gender perspectives is required, and with attention to relevant issues on the agenda

of the Economic and Social Council, in particular the annual main theme of the Council, as applicable;

11. *Requests* the Bureau of the Commission, prior to the session, to identify such an emerging issue, trend, focus area or new approach, in consultation with all Member States, through their regional groups, and taking into account inputs from other relevant stakeholders, for consideration by the Commission through an interactive dialogue;

12. *Decides* that the outcome of the discussion on that emerging issue, trend, focus area or new approach will be in the form of a summary by the Chair of the Commission, prepared in consultation with the regional groups, through the members of the Bureau;

13. *Also decides* that each year the Commission will evaluate progress in the implementation of the agreed conclusions on a priority theme of a previous session, as its review theme, through an interactive dialogue that includes:

(a) Member States of different regions, on a voluntary basis, presenting their lessons learned, challenges and best practices that identify means for accelerated implementation through national and regional experiences;

(b) Ways to support and achieve accelerated implementation, including through addressing data gaps and challenges in the enhanced collection, reporting, use and analysis of data in regard to the theme, at the national, regional and global level;

14. *Further decides* that the outcome of the discussion on the review theme will be in the form of a summary by the Chair of the Commission, prepared in consultation with the regional groups, through the members of the Bureau;

15. *Calls upon* the Commission to further enhance its catalytic role for gender mainstreaming in the United Nations system, including in support of the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda to be adopted at the United Nations summit in September 2015 by, inter alia, expanding its cooperation with other intergovernmental processes and functional commissions through, as appropriate, the exchange of information and transmission of the outcomes of its work, joint informal interactive events and the participation of its Chair, in consultation with the Bureau, in relevant processes;

16. *Invites* all gender-specific United Nations entities and other relevant United Nations entities, including the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, to contribute, where appropriate, to the discussion of the Commission;

17. *Invites* the regional commissions to continue to contribute to the work of the Commission;

18. *Decides*, in view of the traditional importance of non-governmental organizations in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, that, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolutions 1996/6 of 22 July 1996 and 1996/31 of 25 July 1996, such organizations should be encouraged to participate, to the maximum extent possible, in the work of the Commission and in the monitoring and implementation process related to the Fourth World Conference on Women, and requests the Secretary-General to make

appropriate arrangements to ensure full utilization of existing channels of communication with non-governmental organizations in order to facilitate broad-based participation and dissemination of information;

19. *Also decides* to strengthen existing opportunities for non-governmental organizations, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolutions 1996/6 and 1996/31, to contribute to the work of the Commission, including by allocating time for them to deliver statements on themes relevant to the session, during panels and interactive dialogues and at the end of the general discussion, taking into account geographic distribution;

20. *Notes with appreciation* the continuation of the annual parliamentary meetings organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and their contribution to the discussion of the Commission, as well as the programme of side events held on the occasion of the sessions of the Commission;

21. *Encourages* all Member States to consider including in their delegations to the Commission technical experts, planning and budgeting experts and statisticians, including from ministries with expertise relevant to the themes under consideration, as well as parliamentarians, members of national human rights institutions, where they exist, and representatives of non-governmental organizations and other civil society actors, as appropriate;

22. *Encourages* the Bureau of the Commission to continue to play a proactive role in the preparations for the session, including through regular briefings as well as consultations with Member States;

23. *Also encourages* the Bureau of the Commission to continue to propose interactive dialogues, such as high-level events and ministerial and expert workshops that engage Member States and relevant stakeholders, so as to encourage dialogue and to enhance the impact of its work;

24. *Encourages* Governments and all other stakeholders to undertake comprehensive preparations for each session of the Commission, at the national, regional and global level, as applicable, so as to strengthen the basis for follow-up to outcomes and implementation;

25. *Requests* the Commission to continue to apply a thematic approach to its work and to adopt a multi-year programme of work to allow for predictability and adequate time for preparation; in selecting its priority theme, the Commission should take into consideration, in addition to the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, the work programme of the Economic and Social Council, as well as the post-2015 development agenda to be adopted at the United Nations summit in September 2015, so as to build synergies and contribute to the work of the Economic and Social Council system and the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission, on an annual basis, a report on the priority theme, including conclusions and recommendations for further action;

27. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission, on an annual basis, a report on progress made on the review theme at the national level;

28. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to include in the annual report to the Economic and Social Council on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system an assessment of the impact of the Commission's input to discussions within the United Nations system;

29. *Decides* that, at its sixtieth session, when the Commission will decide on its future multi-year programme of work, it should further review its working methods with a view to further aligning them to the post-2015 development agenda to be adopted at the United Nations summit in September 2015.